

REMARKS AND ARGUMENTS

Status of the claims

Claims 4, 11-13, 20 and 21 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 2-3, 5-8, 10, 14-19 and 22 are examined on the merits in the current office action. Claims 2, 3, 5-8, 10, 14-19 and 22 are rejected in this office action.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C 1123 2nd paragraph

Claims 2, 7,8 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claim 2 by defining the peptide as C*C*RGDVLDC* and further defining it as corresponding the active site of the AFP protein. Support to this amendment is provided in the description. The applicant has also clarified how the cyclic structure is formed. The cyclic structure is shown for example in Figure 1 of the application. Applicant believes that this amendment makes the claim allowable.

Applicant has cancelled claims 7, 8 and 19, whereby the rejection becomes moot regarding these claims.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, paragraph 1.

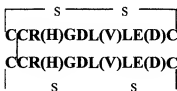
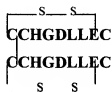
Claims 2-3, 5-8, 10, 14-19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S. C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

The Examiner states the claims lack written description because there is no disclosure of a correlation between function and structure of the compounds beyond compounds disclosed in the examples in the specification. The specification is limited to peptides according to *Cys-Cys-Arg-Gly-Asp-Val-Leu-Asp-Cys* (SEQ ID NO:1), Arg-Gly-Asp-Val-Leu-Asp (SEQ ID NO:2), His-Gly-Asp-Leu-Leu-Glu (SEQ ID NO:3), *Cys-Gly-Arg-Gly-Asp-Val-Leu-Asp-Cys* (SEQ ID NO:4), *Cys-Cys-His-Gly-Asp-Leu-Leu-Glu-Cys* (SEQ ID NO:5), *Cys-Gly-His-Gly-Asp-Leu-Leu-Glu-Cys*, and

CCRGDVLDC



CCRGDVLDC*



Applicant has amended claim 2, and cancelled claims 3, 5-8, 18 and 19. Claims 10, 14-17 are dependent on the amended claim2. The applicant believes the rejection becomes moot and the remaining claims allowable.

CONCLUSION


Applicant has cancelled claims 3, 5-9, 18, and 19, amended claims 2,10,14,16, and 17. Applicant believes that the amended claims are in condition of allowance.

If a telephone conference or interview in person would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 202-463 3275.

Respectfully submitted,

DODDS AND ASSOCIATES

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